

ART. XVII.—*A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of the Eye.* By WILLIAM MACKENZIE, M. D., Surgeon Oculist in Scotland in Ordinary to Her Majesty, &c. &c. To which is prefixed an *Anatomical Introduction explanatory of a Horizontal Section of the Human Eyeball.* By THOMAS WHARTON JONES, F. R. S., Professor of Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, &c. &c. With one hundred and seventy-five Illustrations. From the fourth and enlarged London edition, with Notes and Additions by ADDINELL HEWSON, A. M., M. D., one of the Surgeons to Wills' Hospital, &c. &c. Philadelphia: Blanchard & Lea, 1855. 8vo. pp. 1027, including index.

THE appearance of an American edition of Mackenzie's elaborate treatise so soon after the new issue of Hays's Lawrence, speaks well for the increased attention to the scientific study of ophthalmic surgery in our country. The long-established and deservedly high reputation of this great work, and of its author—world-wide, as it has been fairly called—renders any special commendation needless. The mere announcement of its publication is sufficient to interest professional readers; and we sincerely congratulate them on such a valuable accession to their means of reference upon a branch of practice so important, and often so embarrassing, as the treatment of diseases of the eye.

In the London advertisement to the present edition, we are informed that "a large amount of new matter has been added, and an attempt made, as far as the author's opportunities have served, to notice every material advance in the pathology and treatment of the diseases of the eye which has been made during the last fourteen years." He has also taken care "to introduce, under each head, the most remarkable synonyms, and to give references to the works where the best figures of each disease may be found;" and he appends a list of twenty-five authors, which he chiefly refers to for such illustrations.

These references, and the vast number of citations accumulated throughout the book, together with the abundant array of cases (over four hundred in all), combine fully to justify the assertion quoted by the American editor, that the treatise "forms, in respect of learning and research, an encyclopedia unequalled in extent by any other work of the kind, either English or foreign." That this is the general estimate, is shown by the fact, to which the author himself alludes with very natural gratification, that his book has not only passed through three large editions in his own country, and been reprinted by a transatlantic press, but "has been deemed worthy of being translated and published in the three best known languages of modern Europe—German, French, and Italian."

We have looked through the different chapters with a good deal of interest, and need hardly say that, even in the unavoidably hasty glance to which we have been limited, we have been struck with evidence, from page to page, of the learned author's unremitting care and industry in maintaining the position of his work in keeping with the progress of the day. In some few instances, perhaps, an experienced reader, who happens to be familiar with individual topics which have been more thoroughly discussed elsewhere, may feel a little disappointment; but, on the whole, we are satisfied that no student, teacher, or practitioner need fear to rely upon the book as a library in itself, and one adapted to every want in relation to the subjects of which it treats. The illustrations have been very materially increased in number and excellence, and have been admirably copied by the American artist. Several additional wood-cuts, in the same superior style, have been introduced by the American editor, and materially aid in illustrating the original text, as well as his own annotations.

Dr. Hewson's contributions relate, as he tells us, "chiefly to matters of a practical character," and are, many of them, as a matter of course, of especial interest to American readers. They include many new cases, as well as recent observations, which are scattered throughout the volume, and are generally brief, appropriate, and clearly written. By affording essentially new matter (as in the "Short Account of the Ophthalmoscope," entirely overlooked in the original), they may be regarded as decidedly enhancing the value of the edition.

In the getting-up of the latter, as to paper, printing, and engraving, the pub-

lishers have shown their usual taste and liberality. They are entitled to the thanks of the profession of this country for having at last brought within our reach a handsome reprint of one of the best productions, of its kind, that has issued from the British press.

E. H.

ART. XVIII.—*A Dictionary of Terms used in Medicine and the Collateral Sciences.* By RICHARD D. HOBLYN, A. M. Oxon. A new American, from the last London edition. Revised, with numerous additions, by ISAAC HAYS, M. D., Editor of the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*. Philadelphia: Blanehard & Lea, 1855. 12mo. pp. 522.

The Dictionary of Hoblyn is one well adapted to the use of the student of medicine. Presenting, as it does, in the edition before us, the etymology, with a concise explanation of the meaning of the terms which most frequently occur in those works to which the attention of the student will necessarily be directed during the period of his pupilage, and to which he will continue to resort for instruction during the early period of his professional career, it will be found by him a valuable and trustworthy *tade mecum* for the purpose of inducting him into the true signification of the received terminology of every department of the healing art.

Works of this kind afford great assistance to the student, and are indispensable aids to those who have not the advantages of a classical education, and to whom the etymology of a technical term affords no clue to its meaning. To render these works of easy reference, and, at the same time, faithful guides to the information for which they are resorted to, it is important that, while they embrace all the terms in common use in medical works and those devoted to the collateral sciences, the definition given of each term should be concise, clear, and explicit. Both of these requisites will be found in the Dictionary before us. With the additions of the editor it is sufficiently copious, while the explanations of the terms embraced in it, though condensed, convey a just idea of the sense in which each term is employed by medical writers. It merits, we believe, in even a higher degree, the encomiums that have been bestowed upon the previous editions by the professional journals of Europe and America.

D. F. C.

ART. XIX.—*The Mineral and Thermal Springs of the United States and Canada.* By JOHN BELL, M. D., author of "Baths and Mineral Waters;" "Baths and the Watery Regimen;" "Letters on the Practice of Physic;" "Regimens and Longevity;" "Dictionary of Materia Medica," etc. etc. Philadelphia: Parry & McMillan, 1855. 12mo. pp. 394.

This very excellent manual of the mineral and thermal springs of North America will be found interesting as well to the general reader as to the physician. Independently of the rational curiosity which every inquiring mind must experience in reference to the location, composition, temperature, and modes of issue of the numerous warm, hot, and mineral springs which occur in so many portions of the United States, with the character and geological formation of their respective vicinities, the traveller in pursuit of pleasure and the invalid in search of health are desirous of learning "where to go, how to go, and what to find"—where "waters gushing forth from the rock's hidden channels or the bosom of the earth, form natural pictures which delight the eye, or by their temperature or mineral impregnations serve as medicines for the ills of flesh."

The physician, also, in order that he may be able to direct aright his patients to the spot where, from the use of the water and the influence of its associated scenery, purity of air, and temperature of climate, according to the nature of